

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

August

YEAR

1998

SIGNATURE

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In Charge of HSA

DATE

September 9, 1998

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
 NOAA / National Weather Service
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 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

Rainfall for the month of August was a big change from the dry year of 1998. For only the second time this year, San Angelo received above normal rainfall for the month. Rainfall occurred over parts of West Central Texas on 20 of the 31 days in August. Most of the rainfall events were relatively light. However, a couple big rainfall events during the month resulted in rises along a few rivers across the HSA.

The biggest event of the month occurred on August 23rd through 26th when the remnants of Tropical Storm Charlie became nearly stationary just south and west of the HSA. During the early morning hours of the 23rd, around 5 to 6 inches of rain fell across northern Edwards County in the headwaters of the South Llano River. The runoff from the rainfall caused the South Llano River to rise 25 feet and become nearly 1 mile wide at Telegraph in Southern Kimble County. As the flood wave moved northward, several road crossings and one bridge were washed out. At the South Llano State Park, the water level rose 16 feet and caused damage to fences, signs and campgrounds in the park. The flood wave entered the Llano River mainstem in junction, and caused the river level at the river gage just east of Junction to rise 17 feet in one hour. The crest at Junction was nearly 25 feet and occurred in the early evening. Flood stage at Junction is 16 feet. Most of the damage throughout Kimble County was limited to roads, bridges and fences. The flood wave continued to move downstream on the Llano River and Caused the Llano near Mason to crest at 13.2 feet. Bankfull stage is 6 feet. No major damage was reported in Mason County. As the remnants of the Tropical Storm shifted westward, heavy rainfall occurred over Schleicher, Sutton and Crockett Counties on the 25th and 26th. Radar estimates indicate nearly 8 to 9 inches of rain fell across western Crockett and Sutton Counties. The runoff caused rises on several of the tributaries of the Devils River watershed. Several people had to be evacuated in the city of Sonora when high water threatened homes. The Dry Devils River rose to bankfull level over southwestern Sonora County.

One other heavy rainfall event occurred on the afternoon of the 19th over Sterling and Crockett Counties. This rainfall event was much less widespread with the bulk of the rain falling over northwestern Sterling County. Radar estimates indicate nearly 4 inches of rain fell on the North Concho River to the north of Sterling City. The North Concho River was reported out of its banks in the northern part of the county, but it did not affect any roads or property. At Sterling City, the river rose to 12.3 feet. Flood stage is 17 feet. In Crockett County, another area of heavy rainfall over the south central part of the county resulted in the closing of a couple low water crossings on Farm to Market roads. No major damage was reported.

Average rainfall amounts over much of the HSA for the month of August ranged from 1 to 3 inches. The highest rainfall amounts occurred over the southern half of the area, where 6 inches or more was not uncommon. The driest areas were across the northern HSA in the Brazos River watershed. Some of the higher rainfall reports for the month of August include: Ozona 24 SSW, 11.55 inches; Fort McKavett, 6.63 inches; Roosevelt 24 WSW, 13.58 inches; Junction 4SSW, 6.16 inches; Ozona, 7.9 inches; Sonora, 11.2 inches; Telegraph, 10.23 inches.

For the month of August, San Angelo received 2.77 inches of rainfall, which is 0.84 inches above normal. San Angelo remains below normal for the year, with 8.94 inches so far, 3.83 inches below normal. Abilene received only 0.47 inches of rainfall, which is 2.33 inches below normal. Abilene remains well below normal for the year, with 9.86 inches, 6.31 inches below normal.

River products issued this month:

River Flood Warnings :	3,	for 2 forecast points
River Flood Statements:	1	
River Statements:	5	
Daily River Reports:	31	